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BOROUGH OF HELSTON

MINISTRY OF HEALTH

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT

1960

C O N T E N T S

		Page
MEMBERS OF HEALTH COMMITTEE		1
PREFACE		2/3
SECTION 'A'	STATISTICS OF THE AREA	
	(a) General	4
	(b) Physical & Social	4
	(c) Vital	5
SECTION 'B'	HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA	
	(a) Local Sanitary Authority	6/7
	(b) Local Health Authority	8 - 12
	(c) Hospitals & Clinics	12
	(d) General Practitioners Service	13
SECTION 'C'	ENVIRONMENTAL HYGIENE	
	(a) Water Supply	14
	(b) Drainage & Sewage	14
	(c) Inspection of the District	14 - 16
SECTION 'D'	HOUSING IN THE BOROUGH	
	(a) Housing Erections	16
	(b) Housing Demolition	16
	(c) Caravan Sites Act 1960	17
	(d) Problem Family Re-housing	17
SECTION 'E'	FOOD HYGIENE	
	(a) Inspections	18
	(b) Milk	18
	(c) Ice Cream	18
	(d) Meat	19
SECTION 'F'	GENERAL EPIDEMIOLOGY	
	(a) Notifiable Diseases	20
	(b) Tuberculosis	20/21

HEALTH COMMITTEE - 1960/61

Chairman - Alderman F.E. STRIKE, B.E.M.
Vice - Chairman Councillor J.O.W. NOYE

Alderman J.H. THOMAS, J.P.
Alderman J.A.S. PASCOE
Alderman F.J. MOYLE
Councillor L. R. ROGERS
Councillor C. BASSETT
Councillor A.E. LEE
Councillor W.H. SCOTT
Councillor Mrs. B. SLADE
Councillor F. ZIEMANN
Councillor V.S. TEARNEY
Councillor Miss A.M. LANGDON
Councillor M.G. GALE
Councillor H. MOORES
Councillor G. ANDREWS

No. 2 AREA HEALTH SUB-COMMITTEE

Alderman F.E. STRIKE, B.E.M.

PREFACE

Public Health Department,
The Guildhall,
HELSTON

To His Worship the Mayor and Members of the Borough Council

Your Worship, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in submitting the Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health for the year 1960, and regret the delay in its preparation, due to staff sickness,& the Ministry's recent advice of the need to give a fourth Poliomyelitis injection to primary school children before the end of July 1961.

Compared with last year the main vital statistics show; a rise of 90 in the population to 6,840 and in the Birth, Death, Stillbirth & Infant Mortality rates; no deaths associated with childbirth, a fall in the tuberculosis Death Rate and case incidence, and in the neo-natal and perinatal rates.

During the year plans were prepared for improvements to the sewerage outfall at Porthleven Harbour, and it is hoped that this urgently needed development will be completed quickly.

Progress was made with Slum Clearance and house improvement. 51 houses were dealt with as being unfit for human habitation and 35 improvement grants were considered.

I desire to express my thanks to my Chairman, Members of the Committee, Officers of the Council, and staff of the Public Health Department and the Area Office for their understanding and co-operation since my appointment.

I am,
Your Obedient Servant,
J.A.W. REID,
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

Area Health Office,
Station Hill,
REDRUTH.
Tel. No: Redruth 711/2

CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR'S REPORT.

For the Year ended 31st December, 1960.

Public Health Department,
The Guildhall,
HELSTON.

To His Worship the Mayor and Members of the Borough Council.

Your Worship, Ladies & Gentlemen,

This past year has been one of progress. Strides have been made with slum clearance, housing the aged, and modernising old houses both private and Council, by means of improvement grants, and new houses. Fuller details will appear beneath individual sections.

We have seen many changes in legislation, and at times one wondered whether the continuous flow of circulars, memos, Acts and Regulations would ever cease.

Routine inspections have been carried out, but not to the extent I would like to have seen, due mainly to the happy state this Borough finds itself in, in that its growth is greater than any other in Cornwall, with a consequent increase in work, and no increase in staff.

I would like to express my appreciation to the Staff who have co-operated most loyally, given of their best, and worked many unsung hours of overtime to see their duty done.

With the impending changes in Local Government, it is questionable whether such devotion to duty will be found when areas become bigger and Councillors and staff are more removed from the people they serve.

I am, Ladies & Gentlemen,
Your Obedient Servant,

N. E. Whitby

Chief Public Health Inspector.

SECTION A - Statistics of the Area

1. General Statistics

Area of the district in acres	4,017
Population of the area	6,840
Total number of inhabited houses	2,324
Total number of Council houses	590
Number of sub-standard houses	800
Number under demolition order	58
Rateable value	£79,994
Product of the penny rate	£326

2. Physical and Social Conditions

(a) Description of the Area

The Borough of Helston is the market town and port for the surrounding rural area in which agriculture, building construction, stone quarrying and fishing are the principal occupations. The tourist trade brings great increase in traffic and it is estimated that the population trebles itself during the holiday months.

(b) Employment in the Area

Mr. A.M. Stokes, Manager of the Employment Exchange has kindly supplied the following information relating to employment, unemployment, disablement and rehabilitation in the area.

The principal industries in Helston and the surrounding area are:-

Employment

	Men	Women	TOTAL
Agriculture	488	98	586
Fishing	36	-	36
Stone Quarrying	77	2	79
Bread & Flour Confectionery (Making) .	22	2	24
Marine Engineering	40	-	40
Rope, Twine & Net Making ...	10	8	18
Building Construction	493	5	498
Gas, Electricity & Water Supply	38	9	47
Transport Undertakings	299	39	338
Distributive Trades	356	307	663
Insurance, Banking & Finance	50	18	68
Professional & Scientific Services ...	157	275	432
Miscellaneous Services	215	335	550
Public Administration	449	36	485
Totals	2,730	1,134	3,864

(c) Unemployment

161 men and 67 women were unemployed at the end of the year. The industries most affected were:-

Men		Women	
Fishing	51	Hotel & Catering	33
Agriculture	23	Distributive Trade	13
Hotel & Catering	19		

(d) Disablement

The number of disabled persons on the Disabled Persons Register were:-

	Men	Women
Surgical	61	6
Medical	35	3
Physchiatric	3	-
Others	9	1
Totals ...	108	10

8 disabled men had periods of unemployment under 26 weeks and 3 for longer periods.

(e) Rehabilitation

One man entered the Industrial Retraining Unit during the year and nine men and three women attended Government Training Centre Courses.

(f) Sickness Morbidity

I am indebted to Mr. T.W.E. Smout, Manager, Ministry of National Insurance, Helston, for the following table giving the number of new claims of sickness benefit for 1960:-

January	...	148
February	...	136
March	...	215
April	...	117
May	...	99
June	...	104
July	...	115
August	...	136
September	...	98
October	...	114
November	...	150
December	...	167
		1,599

3. Vital Statistics

(a) Live Births

	Males	Females	TOTAL	Rate
Total	92	101	193	
Legitimate	92	99	191	
Illegitimate	-	2	2	
Birth Rate (Unamended)				28.22
Comparability Factor				0.92
Adjusted Birth Rate				25,96
Illegitimacy Rate (% of Live Births)				1.04

(b) Still Births

	Males	Females	TOTAL	Rate
Total	4	1	5	
Legitimate	4	1	5	
Illegitimate	-	-	-	

Still Birth Rate (per 1,000 total live & still births) 25.25
Still Birth Rate (per 1,000 estimated resident population) 0.73

(c) General Deaths (excluding Still Births)

All Causes	109	
Death Rate		15.93
Comparability Factor		0.75
Adjusted Death Rate		11.95
Maternity Deaths		Nil
Maternal Mortality (per 1,000 total live & still births)		Nil

(d) Deaths of Infants under One Year

Total 3
Legitimate 3
Illegitimate ..... -
Infant Mortality (per 1,000 live births) 15.54

(e) Principal Causes of Infant Deaths

Infection ..... 2 (Ages 11 mths. & 8 mths)
Respiratory ..... 1 (Aged 7 mths.)

(f) Deaths of Infant Under 4 weeks of Age

Total ..... Nil
Neo-Natal Mortality (per 1,000 total live births) Nil

(g) Deaths of Infants Under 1 Week

Total ..... Nil
Early Neo-Natal Mortality (per 1,000 total live births) Nil
Perinatal Mortality (Still births & deaths under 1 week combined per 1,000 total live & still births) ..... Nil

(h) Principal Causes of Deaths - All Ages

	Males	Females	Percentage of Total Deaths
Heart	30	37	61.47
Cancer	4	3	6.42
Respiratory	4	3	6.42
(Cardio Vascular Disease (of the Central Nervous (System	11	9	18.35

SECTION B - General Provision of Health Services in the Borough

1. Local Sanitary Services

(a) Staff

Medical Officer of Health and Area Medical Officer.
Dr. J.A.W. REID, M.B.,Ch.B.,D.P.H.,M.R.S.H.

Chief Public Health Inspector

Mr. N.E. WHITBY A.I.A.S.,A.F.S.(Eng), A.M.I.P.H.E.,M.R.S.H.

Public Health Inspector

Mr. R.W. BYWATERS M.A.P.H.I., N.C.B.

Clerical Staff

Miss F. BARRETT

Rodent Operator
Mr. J. MARTIN

Cornwall County Council Staff

Dentists

Mr. J.E. KENNY, L.D.S.

Assistant County Nursing Officer

Miss A. HOWARTH, S.R.N.,S.C.M.,Q.N.S.,H.V. Cert.

Health Visitors

Mrs. A. HORNE
Miss P.M. LUCKES (T.B. Health Visitor)

District Nurse/Midwives

Miss F.A. ACEY
Mrs. G.R.E. BERRY
Miss E. BLANKS

Home Help Organiser

Mrs. E. EDYVEAN - W.V.S.

Dental Attendant

Miss M. LEAN

Mental Welfare Officers

Mr. F.A. MARKS
Mr. B. STEVENS

Welfare Officers

Mr. T.H.E. BECKETT
Mr. C. CLEMO

Clerical Staff

Mr. D. MAY
Mrs. P.R. PHILLIPS
Mrs. V.E. PAULL
Miss E. LEE

The Area Medical Officer is responsible to the County Medical Officer for the administration of the Health Services within Area No. 2., comprising the Borough of Helston, the Urban District of Camborne-Redruth and the Rural District of Kerrier, and is also Medical Officer of Health to these Authorities. The allocation of time as between environmental hygiene and the personal Health Services is in the ratio of 2 : 1. In this way the Public Health problems in the district are the responsibility of one professional man, and the closest co-operation between the County district and the County Council is maintained.

Under the Public Health Officers (Outside London) Regulations 1953, the saleries of the Medical Officer of Health, Chief Public Health Inspector and the District Inspectors, are contributed to by grants from the Ministry of Health.

(b) Laboratory Facilities

Pathological and bacteriological specimens requiring examination are sent to the Public Health Laboratory, Royal Cornwall Infirmary, Truro.

(c) National Assistance Act, 1948
National Assistance (Amendment) Act 1951 - Section 47

Removal to suitable premises of persons in need of care and attention

No action was taken under Section 47 of the above Acts.

Section 50 - Burial and Cremation of the Dead

No action was taken under this section.

2. Local Health Authority Services

Personal Health Services

The following personal Health Services are provided under the National Health Service Act, 1946, by the Cornwall County Service and are administered through No. 2 Area Health Sub-Committee on which the Helston Borough is represented by 1 member and the Kerrier Rural District by 4 members.

(a) Care of Mothers & Young Children

Ante-Natal Supervision

Women who desire to have their babies at home are supervised during their pregnancy by their family doctor and the domiciliary midwife. Adequate and continuous ante-natal and post-natal care is essential if complications in labour and chronic ill health in later life are to be avoided. Most practices in the Helston Borough and Kerrier Rural district hold Ante-Natal Clinics at their surgeries at which the midwife attends. Health education is available for these mothers.

Hospital

Hospital patients who have booked hospital beds attend the hospital outpatients clinic. Apart from emergency cases, bookings for hospital confinements are allocated according to the Ministry of Health priority groups, for medical or obstretical reasons and unsuitable home conditions. Patients who have been accepted for hospital confinements attend the hospital Ante-Natal clinic, but continue to be supervised at home by their family doctors. Mothers and babies are normally discharged home on the 10th. day after delivery to the care of the District Midwife, and from the 14th. day onwards, the Health Visitor supervises the mother and child. The important post-natal supervision which every mother has, four weeks after delivery is carried out by their family doctor.

Ante-Natal Educational Classes are held at:-

Place	When Held	Time
Meneage House, Meneage Street, Helston.	2nd. & 4th. Thursday of each month	2.15 p.m.

Number of sessions held during 1960	23
Number of mothers attending during 1960	64
Number of attendances during 1960	292
Average attendance per session	13

Child Welfare Sessions are held at:-

Meneage House, Meneage Street, Helston.	Every Wednesday	2 - 4 p.m.

The following table shows the number of infants and toddlers who attended the clinic and the number of visits these children made to the clinic throughout the year.

Children under 1 yr. 1st. Attd.	1st. Attd. during yr. of children born in			No. Attended			
	Present Year	Last Year	Previous 4 years	Under 1 yr.	Over 1 Under 2	Over 2 Under 5	TOTAL
167	119	112	23	1268	178	157	1603

Welfare Foods

Welfare Foods are distributed from the following centres.

Meneage House, Helston	The Stores, Porthleven
Gunwalloe	Post Office, Breage
Mawgan Cross	Post Office, Prah Sands
The Lizard	The Vicarage, St. Keverne
Choon Farm, Manaccan	Trenoweth, Ruan Minor
The Pharmacy, Mullion	Post Office, Crowntown
Parc Wartha House, Mullion	Women's Institute, Constantine

Birth Control

Advice was given to 11 mothers during the year in the combined areas of Helston and Kerrier.

(b) Midwifery

There are 15 County Council midwives in the combined areas of Helston and Kerrier.

During the year they attended 267 confinements which represents 50% of the total births. Last year 247 of expectant mothers had their babies in hospital.

	Kerrier	Helston
Born at Home	162	105
Born in Redruth Hosp.	159	88
Born in Nursing Home	18	5
TOTAL	339	198

42 cases were discharged from the Maternity Hospital or Nursing Home to the care of the domiciliary midwife prior to the 10th. day, and 56 prior to the 14th. day.

The following number of ante-natal and post-natal visits were made during the year.

Kerrier Rural District

	Domiciliary	Hospital	Nursing Home
Total Births	162	156	18
Fulltime	159	144	18
Stillbirths	1	3	-
Premature Stillbirths	-	8	1
Premature Livebirths	5	8	-
Neo-Natal Deaths	-	4	-
Other Infant Deaths	-	8	-

Helston Borough

	Domiciliary	Hospital	Nursing Home
Total Births	105	88	5
Fulltime	102	76	4
Stillbirths	1	4	-
Premature Stillbirths	3	-	-
Premature Livebirths	3	-	1
Neo-Natal Deaths	-	-	-
Other Infant Deaths	-	-	-

(c) Health Visiting

1 Health Visitor and 11 District Nurse/Midwife/Health Visitors work in the Helston and Kerrier areas, the following is a summary of the work carried out by them:-

Domiciliary Visits	Helston	Kerrier
Children under 1 yr	1911	2930
Children 1 - 2 yrs.	473	1075
Children 2 - 5 yrs.	986	2761
Aged & Infirm	141	1199
Other cases	64	15
Special Enquiries (Infant Deaths & Stillbirths)	6	1
Attendance at Clinics		
Welfare Clinics	43	-
Tuberculosis Clinics	109	(Combined)
Immunisations	43	27
Ante-Natal Educational Classes	18	-
Attendance at Schools		
Medical Inspections	56	61
Cleanliness Inspections	53	47
Immunisation Sessions	3	22
Mothercraft	28	-

The Health Visitor is the General Social Worker responsible for advising all the families in her district and carries out the full range of duties in the Public Health and School Health fields, with the exception of tuberculosis visiting, venereal disease contact tracing, and supervision of handicapped persons. These latter tasks being allocated to specialist workers.

(d) Home Nursing

14 Home Nurses were engaged in district nursing in the combined areas during 1960, and they made 18,911 home visits.

The following table summarises their work:-

Medical	14,317
Surgical	2,788
Tuberculosis	1,665
Maternal Complications	73
Others	68

(e) Vaccination and Immunisation

The following table gives the number vaccinated and immunised at the clinics and by the doctors in the areas.

Kerrier

	General Practitioners	Clinics
Poliomyelitis - 2nd.	351	52
Poliomyelitis - 3rd.	714	172
Diphtheria - Booster	19	338
Diphtheria/Whooping Cough Primary	-	1
Tetanus - Primary	14	5
Diphtheria/Whooping Cough/ Tetanus - Primary	228	25
Diphtheria/Tetanus - Primary	38	5
Diphtheria/Tetanus - Booster	31	27
Smallpox - Primary	122	17
Smallpox - Re-vaccination	14	-

Helston

	General Practitioners	Clinics
Poliomyelitis - 2nd.	433	145
Poliomyelitis - 3rd.	598	213
Diphtheria - Booster	17	113
Tetanus Primary	1	13
Diphtheria/Whooping Cough/ Tetanus - Primary	116	63
Diphtheria/Tetanus - Primary	3	4
Diphtheria/Tetanus - Booster	23	13
Smallpox - Primary	63	28
Smallpox - Re-vaccination	3	-

Poliomyelitis Immunisation

The Minister of Health announced on 1st. February 1960 that the age group for free anti-poliomyelitis vaccination would be raised to all persons under 40 years. Following the Minister's announcement it was disclosed that there was available enough British vaccine to protect every person in the country up to the age of 40 from Poliomyelitis.

By September 1960, the acceptance rate in Kerrier Rural District was 86% and in Helston Borough 58% for pre school and school age, and 11% in Kerrier and 45% in Helston for those over school age. During the last quarter of the year efforts were made to publicise the need for the public to make use of the free service offered. A series of open sessions were held but the response was poor.

(f) Ambulance Service

During weekday working hours the County Ambulance Service from Tolvean Depot, Redruth, carries out all normal duties; at nights and at weekends cover is given by voluntary ambulance crew of St. John Ambulance Brigade at Helston, using their own ambulance.

All ambulances operating from the depot are wireless controlled and are thus instantly available wherever they may be. This frequently has enabled the Depot Controller to direct an already moving ambulance to the scene of an accident.

(g) Prevention of Illness, Care and After Care

(1) Nursing Equipment

Cases discharged from hospital and requiring after care are treated by the Home Nurse or supervised by the Health Visitor. Sick room equipment such as urine bottles, bedpans, bed rests, air cushions, mattresses, rubber sheeting, can be had on loan.

(2) Hospital - After Care

The Assistant County Nursing Officer liases with the hospital staffs, background reports of home and social conditions are made available to the medically staff and advance requests are made for home nursing, home help and supervisory visits which the patient may require on discharge.

(3) Welfare Workers

To carry out the provisions of the National Assistance Act, 1948, two Welfare Officers work in Area 2.

(4) Mental Health

Under the Mental Health Act, 1960, two Mental Welfare Officers provide for the admission to hospital of all mentally ill patients and mentally defective children and adults, and their subsequent after care and rehabilitation in the community.

(h) Domestic Help Service - Helston & Kerrier

At the beginning of the year 27 cases in Helston & Kerrier were being served by a Home Help this decreased by 2 by the 31.12.60. There were 32 new cases during the year. Throughout the year the equivalent of 5 full time Home Helps were employed.

The following table shows the number and types of cases assisted during the year:-

Chronic Sick	...	32
Maternity	...	16
Tuberculosis	...	2
Others	...	6
		56

3. Hospital Services

(a) The local services are administered by West Cornwall Hospital Management Committee on behalf of the South Western Regional Hospital Board, and the following are the hospital services for the area:-

Hospital	Type	No. of Beds		
Meneage House, Helston.	Chronic Sick	Female	42	67
		Male	25	
Helston Cottage Hospital.	General	Female	5	12
		Male	4	
		Private	1	
		Amenity	2	
Redruth	General	Female	50	93
		Male	23	
		Children	13	
		Private	5	
		Amenity	2	
Redruth	Maternity		56	
Barncoose	Geriatric	Female	110	134
		Male	24	
Tehidy	Chest	Female	40	122
		Male	71	
		Children	8	
		Private	3	

Infectious Diseases are admitted to St. Clements Hospital, Truro.

(b) Clinics

The Chest Clinic is situated at Falmouth Hospital, the times of the clinics are as follows:-

Chest Clinic New & Old Cases	Every Monday except 1st. Monday in the month	2 p.m.
Chest Clinic New & Old Cases	Every Monday	9 p.m.
Contact Clinic	1st. Monday each month	2 p.m.

The close co-operation between the Area Medical Officer and the Chest Physician has been maintained throughout the year. The Health Visitor responsible for domiciliary visiting of cases of tuberculosis also acts as Clinic Nurse at the weekly Chest Clinics. A Register of those patients requiring priority visiting and close supervision is kept in the Area Office. 11 new cases occurred in Kerrier and 1 in Helston during the year.

Venereal Disease Clinic

This clinic is held at Falmouth Hospital as follows:-

Males	...	Every Saturday	...	10 a.m.
Females	...	Every Tuesday	...	10 a.m.

(c) Mass X-Ray

Coverack (June 1960)

A small unit visited this area on Thursday, 30th. June, 1960, and three public sessions were held during the day - 11 a.m. to 12 noon, 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. & 5 p.m. to 6.30 p.m.. All the householders in the vicinity received notice of the times of the sessions, and publicity was carried out by shopkeepers, local nursing staff, and the General Practitioner's Surgery.

The estimated population notified was 600, number who attended for X-Ray 200, some of which were holiday makers. About 35% of the population turned up. 2 cases were advised to have further check up and these were asked to attend Falmouth Chest Clinic.

(d) Blood Transfusion

With the rapid advance of surgical and anaesthetic techniques of the last few years, blood transfusion is becoming a vital part of modern treatment for accidents and disease. Donors are urgently needed.

This service is run by the South Western Regional Transfusion Centre at Bristol. Sessions are arranged in any town, village or factory who can supply 80 or more volunteers.

Results of Donor Sessions - 1960

I am indebted to The Organising Director, Blood Transfusion Service, Plymouth, for the following details:-

	No. of Sessions	Donors Attending
Helston ...	2	222

4. General Practitioners Service

12 doctors practice from surgeries in Kerrier & Helston.

There are two practices of two doctors, 1 practice of four doctors, and 4 practices with 1 doctor.

SECTION C

1. Environmental Hygiene

(a) Water Supply.

There is a mains supply generally throughout the district supplied by Helston and Porthleven Water Co. All water is treated by automatic chlorination.
Bacteriological examination results were as follows:-

No. of Samples	Satisfactory	Reasonably Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory
31	23	3	5

TWO unsatisfactory samples were obtained from domestic premises and the Water Co. have caused the mains to be regularly flushed and this appears to have solved the problem.

(b) Non Mains Supplies.

TWO properties were found to be without mains supply and three samples were found to be unsatisfactory. Formal notices were served upon the owners requiring mains connections to be made and this was carried out.

2. Drainage and Sewerage.

This aspect of Public Health work has again received considerable attention and our Consultants, Messers Harvey, Mc.Gill and Hayes put forward a scheme for Porthleven which the Council has accepted. An application has been made to the Minister of Housing and Local Government for a loan sanction, and it is hoped to start some time next year.

The heavy volume of rain at the latter part of the year shewed to what extent the Helston Sewage Works are overloaded. Several houses in the lower part of the town were flooded and one family temporarily rehoused until repairs had been carried out to the house; other houses also had to be repaired. With the view to preventing a further occurrence the Consultants were asked to prepare a scheme to increase the size ofthe Helston Sewage Works, as the number of houses in the town is likely to increase very rapidly within the next few years, and the possible introduction of light industry with its complex problems of trade waste disposal.

3. Public Health Inspection of the District.

A large number of visits and inspections were carried out during the year, but due to staff changes and pressure of other work, adequate routine inspections of many types of premises was not possible.

Notices and Informal Notices served:-

Public Health Act 1936

R of repairs	3
Drainage	2
Accumulations	1
General Nuisances	2
Dustbins	36

Shops Act 1950

Sanitary Accomodation 1

4. Housing Act 1957.

Disrepair 5

5. Factories Act 1937.

Bakehouses.

It has not been possible to carry out routine inspection visits to all factories in the Borough, although there are no factories of any size in Helston. Where inspections were carried out sanitary conditions were found to be reasonabl adequate.

PART 1 OF THE ACT

- INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors).

Premises	Number on Register	Number of Inspections	Written notices	Occupiers prosecuted
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
) Factories in which Sections 1,2 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities/	10	7	1	NIL
ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	39	7	1	NIL
ii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local uthority (excluding out-workers' premis)	9	12	NIL	NIL
Total	58	26	2	NIL

Cases in which defects were found:-
Lack of cleanliness
Lack of W.C. accomodation
Both matters are undergoing attention and should be completed during 1961.

6. Clean Air Act 1956.

Smoke nuisance 1

7. Prevention of Damage by Pests Act 1949.

Rat Proofing 2

8. Rag, Flock and other Filling Material Regulations.

There are no registered premises within the Borough.

9. Pet Animals Act 1954.

There are no premises within the Borough which come within this Act.

10. Visits and inspections to various premises during the year were:-

Sewage Plant	187	Refuse Tip	257
Housing Act	232	Council Houses	148
Disinfections	10	Market	151
Public Conveniences	6	Rodent Control	21
Watercourses	15	Clean Air Act	3

No. 10 cont.

Caravans	43	Other Public Health	
Building Byelaws	323	Visits not classified	318

For visits and notices re Food Premises see Section E

11. Public Conveniences

At present seven public conveniences are provided in the Borough, which includes the facilities at the Market and at Coronation Lake. It is proposed that extra public conveniences should be erected in the Helston Playing Fields and the Porthleven Playing Fields during the next year.

12. Refuse Removal and Disposal

A weekly refuse collection is made throughout the Borough by means of a side loading vehicle, salvage is collected twice weekly as is trade refuse. It has been found that the present vehicle is inclined to create a dust nuisance, and not able to carry the same amount of refuse as before this being due to the change in character of the refuse, which is now comprised largely of paper, cardboard boxes and tins, instead of ashes as of previous years.
The Council are shortly to consider the purchase of a larger refuse vehicle and also a scheme whereby dustbins would be provided through the district at a charge of 7/6d per year to the house occupiers.
Disposal is by controlled tipping in both Helston and Porthleven. The tips generally were kept reasonably free from serious pest infestations during the year, by constant treatment for rats and periodical treatment by insecticidal powders.

13. Rodent and Pest Control

Rodent Control One part time operator is employed. Regular check treatment of Tips, sewers and water courses were made and this has resulted in considerable control being excercised throughout the district.

Pest Control Several complaints were received from a Guest House in the Borough concerning large cluster flies which continually swarmed in a bedroom. Advice was obtained from a firm dealing in Insecticides and it appears that the problem is now under control.

SECTION D

1. Housing in the Area

The rate of private enterprise building has continued throughout the year. Twenty-seven houses were actually completed and plans have been approved for another eighty-two houses and bungalows in the coming year, this is very great improvement on last year. The Council encourages owner occupation by making 100 per cent loans wherever possible.
The Admiralty have decided to increase the number of units of accomodation for personnel stationed at R.N.A.S. Culdrose, and negotiations are at present in hand to purchase land. Full details are not yet available but it seems that at least two-hundred units of housing will be required.
The Council have at present twenty new flats under construction in Helston, these will further assist the housing needs of the district.
No building is taking place at Porthleven at present but negotiations are in hand to purchase ten acres for both Council and Private development.
Slum clearance has proceeded well. Two areas, totalling sixteen houses were declared with two more under consideration.

No. 1. SECTION D cont.

During the year four houses were demolished and a further fifteen unfit houses were either closed or formal undertakings accepted from the owners. At present there are fifty-one listed unfit houses in the area either awaiting improvement or demolition.

Building inspections have again increased in the past year. In addition to the scrutiny of the deposited plans, 323 site inspections were made. The Planning Authority, working in close liaison with the Borough Council frequently required observations on proposed development. This work and inspection is routine rather than spectacular but nevertheless it represents valuable public health work in its broadest sense.

A fair number of older houses were improved this year, twenty-nine by way of grants, six without, this shows a slight improvement on last year.

It would appear that more owner occupiers are taking advantage of the financial incentives to modernise these older type houses.

The Council is to be commended on its work in connection with standard and improvement grants, owners of properties have been notified of these grants and encouraged to make application. This will have a long term effect upon the future by reducing slums and the need to build Council houses.

Non traditional housing in the Borough consists of ten Prefabricated Bungalows which will within the next few years be vacated and demolished.

2. Caravans Sites Act 1960

This year saw the coming into force of the new Act in respect of Camping and Caravans and it was necessary for detailed inspections to be made of all the seven residential sites in the Borough, containing eighty-two caravans.

Each owner was interviewed and advised what requirements would be made. All sites were licensed by the Council for periods of up to seven years and conditions were laid down with each licence. Planning permission had also to be obtained in respect of each application.

The Council also decided to allow the fair-ground to be used as a Holiday Caravan Site. An application to Area planning was made but to date no decision has yet been reached.

This Act caused much work in a very short time due to the early commencement of the Act following The Royal Assent. It is hoped that Parliament will realise that where an Act has to be applied hurriedly routine work has to go by the Board and this only leads to frustration and in some cases bad decisions.

3: Re-housing Problem Families.

During the year a survey of families in the County was retaken by the County Council. The families in the Borough were classified as follows :-

Potential problem families	2
'Hard Core' problem families	3

As a result of the survey it was decided that a Pilot Scheme for extra assistance for these sub-standard families in their homes be started in Area No.2. For this purpose one Family Welfare Worker will be appointed early next year.

Provision has been made for a rehabilitation unit to house for a limited period families whose living arrangements are so primitive that improvement is impossible in their present environment.

In my view the success or failure of this experiment will largely depend on the co-operation of the Housing Committee in rehousing families who by dint of their own efforts have rasied their standard of living and made the best use of the help given by the Family Welfare Worker.

SECTION E

4. Supervision of Food.

Visits to food premises were as follows:-

Slaughter House	724	Public houses	4
Dairies	4	Food vehicles	5
Ice Cream manufacturers	12	Ice Cream dealers	73

Intimations were served in repect of:-

Food Hygiene Regulations	3
Milk and Dairy Regulations	2
Ice Cream (Heat Treatment) Regulations	2

It was not found possible due to staff changes to inspect every food premises in the Borough. On the whole the standard is fairly good but it is hoped to inspect all the food premises in the coming year.
Food stuffs condemned after voluntary surrender were destroyed or disposed of under the supervision of the Public Health Inspectors. The amount of unsound food from shops and stores was:-

31 cans of meat and meat products.
52 cans miscellaneous food stuffs.
9 stone of wet fish.
3 boxes of chickens.

The total weight - 3 cwts 98 lbs 6 ozs.

5. Milk

Almost all the milk consumed in the Borough is from the pasteurising plants of the dairies situated outside the area.
Some trouble was again experienced through unsatisfactory cleansing of bottles. Informal action was taken and an improvement has been effected.
Four samples of milk were obtained for bacteriological examination, one of which showed inefficient pasteurisation & after consultation this has been rectified.
At the end of the year twelve dairymen were licensed as retailers of designated milks.

6. Ice Cream

Six premises were registered during the year for the sale and storage of ice-cream. The total number ofpremises now registered is,

Manufacturers	1
Ice Cream dealers	40

Sixty-one samples were submitted to the Public Health Laboratory with the following results:-

Produced.	No. of smaples.	Group 1.	2.	3.	4.
In the Borough	33	18	9	6	-
Outside of Borough	28	22	6	-	-

These samples show a slight improvement on the previous year but it was found that several premises were not changing the serving equipment water frequently enough. It was decided to sample this water to ascertain to what degree this was responsible for the poor quality ice-cream.
Deosan Ltd., were contacted and through an agent made supplies available in the area. It was noted that where persons used a sterilising agent in the water the samples generally were satisfactory.
It is hoped that in the coming year results will be better still.

7. Meat Inspection

Most of the animals slaughtered in Helston Slaughterhouse are for export to other area 38,896 animals were inspected out of a kill of 46,656. In the previous year 43,755 were inspected out of 49,497.
The Slaughterhouse Act required all slaughterhouses to come up to a set standard and to state a date by which this could be done and it was decided by the owners of the private slaughterhouse that April 18th 1961 would be satisfactory. This date was agreed by the Minister and work is at present in hand. The owners are co-operating to the full to ensure the slaughterhouse will comply in every respect.

The incidence of tuberculosis should be kept under control in the future by the proposals to make Cornwall 100 per cent attested. Helston slaughterhouse is a centre to which reactors are sent by the Ministry of Agriculture for slaughter.

It was also found that tuberculosis affecting pigs was of Avion strain and although there is no reduction in numbers affected it would seem that Bovine tuberculosis being under control will assist the reduction in the number of pigs affected.

A marked increase in the number of animals infected with Cysticercus bovis was found in the latter part of the year. No obvious reason appears to be available but this seems to be a matter requiring further investigation.

Details of Carcases and Offal inspected and Condemned.

	Pigs	Cows & Bulls	Horses & Steers	Calves	Sheep
Number inspected	30,652	628	1,010	1,839	4,767
Number slaughtered	35,681	641	1,145	2,377	6,812
All diseases CONDEMNED except Tuberculosis & Cysticercosis					
Whole carcases	62	22	4	16	29
Part "	192	34	26	4	9
Offal	393	201	111	7	53
Tuberculosis					
Whole carcases	5	8	1	2	-
Part "	410	27	3	1	-
Offal	32	56	3	-	-
Cysticercosis					
Whole carcases	-	1	2	-	-
Part "	-	4	12	-	-
Offal	-	7	7	-	-

Total weight condemned :- 16 tons 4 cwts. 22lbs.

SECTION F - General Epidemiology

The total number of Infectious Disease notified during 1960 was 8, compared with 26 in 1959. The decrease is accounted for by the decrease in the cases of Measles.

Puerperal Pyrexia

The number of Helston mothers confined in hospital and developing Puerperal Pyrexia was four. One case occurred in a domiciliary confinement.

The Maternity Unit at Redruth serves the whole of the County. 1,631 births were notified and 68 cases of Puerperal Pyrexia occurred. This gives an incidence of 41 cases per 1,000 births. Just over half of the cases occurred between the months of July and October.

Pulmonary Tuberculosis

1 case of Pulmonary Tuberculosis was notified throughout the year, giving a case incidence of 0.15 per 1,000 population.

3 contacts of this new notification were investigated, giving a contact rate of three persons per notified case. The table below shows the type of contact investigated.

Household Contacts

	Consented	Refused
School	2	-
Adult	1	-
TOTAL	3	

(a) Notifiable Diseases during the Year 1960

Diseases	AGE GROUPS					Adm-itted to Hosp.	Total 1960	Total 1959	Incr. or Decr.
	3-4	4-5	5-9	15-19	35-44				
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	3	- 2
Puerperal Pyrexia	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	+ 1
Measles	1	1	-	-	-	-	2	22	-20
Pneumonia	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	+ 1
Dysentery	-	-	1	-	-	1	1	-	+ 1
Whooping Cough	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	-	+ 1
Scarlet Fever	-	-	-	1	-	-	1	-	+ 1

(a) Notifications of Infectious Diseases during 1960

Diseases	MONTHS					Males	Females	Total
	Jan.	Mar.	Apr.	Aug.	Nov.			
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	-	-	1	-	-	1	-	1
Puerperal Pyrexia	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
Measles	-	1	-	1	-	2	-	2
Pneumonia	-	1	-	-	-	-	1	1
Dysentery	-	-	1	-	-	1	-	1
Whooping Cough	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	1
Scarlet Fever	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	1

(b) Tuberculosis

(i) Register

	Males	Females	Total
No. of cases on T.B. Register at commencement of year - Respiratory	19	25	44
Non-Respiratory	2	5	7
No. of cases on T.B. Register at the end of the year - Respiratory	19	23	42
Non-Respiratory	2	5	7

Removals from Register during year

	Males	Females	Total
Reasons for removal			
Removed from district Respiratory	1	1	2
Non-Respiratory	-	-	-
Recovered - Respiratory	-	3	3
Non-Respiratory	-	-	-

(ii) New Cases during the year

1 male, respiratory between 35 & 44 years was notified during the year.

(iii) B.C.G. Protection

(a) Contact Tracing

During 1960, 6 persons were given B.C.G. by the Chest Physician being contacts of persons suffering from tuberculosis. A further 2 were found after being mantoux tested, not to require B.C.G. vaccination.

(b) School Children Protection

B.C.G. Vaccination of School Children in Helston Schools

	Helston Sec. Mod.	Gwealhellis Sec. Mod.	Helston Grammar	Totals
Estimated number in Age Group	58	100	64	222
Consents - Number ...	56	92	55	203
Percentage ...	96.55	92.00	85.94	91.44
Given Skin Test - Number	47	82	54	183
Percentage	83.93	89.13	98.18	90.14
Positive Reactors - Number	11	8	6	25
Percentage	23.4	9.76	11.11	13.67
Negative Reactors Given B.C.G.	35	72	46	153
Number absent at time of reading	1	2	2	5